

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INRE-00

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O 111340 Z MAY 73

FM USDEL SALT TWO II

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1977

S E C R E T USDEL SALT TWO II 184

EXDIS/ SALT

DOD HANDLE AS SPECAT FOR SECDEF

E. O. 11652: XGDSI

TAGS: PARM

SUBJECT: COMMENTS ON MAY 11 MEETING

1. I MET PRIVATELY WITH SEMENOV AN HOUR PRIOR TO TODAY' S MEETING TO GIVE HIM A PREVIEW OF PROPOSAL WE WOULD BE MAKING ON MIRV' S. I PRESENTED PROPOSAL IN BROAD OUTLINE AS A " FREEZE" WHICH SHOULD BE OF BENEFIT TO BOTH COUNTRIES AND PROMPT ACTION ON WHICH SHOULD BRING

A HALT TO WHAT COULD BE ANOTHER SPIRAL IN ARMS RACE WITH DESTABILIZING EFFECTS ON STRATEGIC STABILITY.

2. SEMENOV LISTENED CAREFULLY AND ONLY COMMENTED THAT SOVIET ATTITUDE ON " THIS QUESTION" HAD BEEN CONTAINED IN BREZHNEV' S DECEMBER 21, 1972, STATEMENT WHICH GAVE " GENERAL QUIDELINES." HE NOTED THAT LIMITATIONS IN ADDITION TO THOSE IN THE INTERIM AGREEMENT WERE POSSIBLE AND THAT, AS OUR PROPOSAL SEEMED TO BE WITHIN THIS CONTEXT, WHITHOUT COMMENTING ON THE SUBSTANCE OF OUR PROPOSAL, US AND SOVIET VIEWS SEEM TO BE COINCIDING ON THE POSSIBLITY OF AGREEMENTS ADDITIONAL TO THE INTERIM AGREEMENT. HE ASSURED ME THAT OUR PROPOSAL WOULD BE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED BY HIS DELEGATION AND GOVERNMENT.

3. AT FORMAL MEETING I MADE PRESENTATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH TEXT OF STATEMENT TRANSMITTED BY SEPTTEL. (FYI MINOR MODIFICATIONS IN SECRET

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THAT TEXT FROM TEXT OF INSTRUCTIONS WERE DISCUSSED DURING MY VISIT TO LONDON.) HE MADE NO RESPONSE EXCEPT AGAIN TO REFER TO BREZHNEV'S DECEMBER 21, 1972, STATEMENT AND ASAY THAT OUR STATEMENT WOULD BE CAREFULLY STUDIED.

4. IN OUR PRIVATE PRECEDING CONVERSATION SEMENOV ALSO RAISED DESIRE FOR " INFORMAL EXCHANGES" BETWEEN MEMBERS OF DELEGATIONS AT OUR MEETINGS, TO WHICH I RESPONDED POSITIVELY STATING THAT I WAS PREPARED TO SUPPORT AND COOPERATE IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE TO BRING ABOUT THIS RESULT. I SUGGESTED THAT IT COULD BEST BE DONE BY INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF HIS DELEGATION ASKING ANY QUESTIONS THAT THEY MAY HAVE WITH REGARD TO OUR PROPOSALS WHICH COULD IMMEDIATELY BE ANSWERED BY ME OR INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF MY DELEGATION OR COULD BE TAKEN FOR CONSIDERED ANSWERS AT SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS. WE AGREED TO TRY THIS OUT AT OUR NEXT MEETING. JOHNSON

SECRET
NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS
*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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